# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine

# Site Screen Report

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits, pits and waste piles. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

# Black No. 2 Mine AUM Site

Navajo AUM Northern Region

Prepared by:

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Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

12767.063.496.1111

March 2010

Part I	Site Identification, Location and Status			
Site Names an	nd ID numbers as applicable			
Mine ID:	205			
Map ID:	N257			
CERCLIS:	NNN000908864			
Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program: NA-0327				
Local name / Aliases: Bare Rock Mesa; Black #2, East				
Chapter and local area: Round Rock				
County: Apa	ache <b>State:</b> Arizona			
<b>Lat/Long:</b> 36.4991209205 N / -109.248810245 W				
Nearby road and highway: Indian Route 33 Local Post Office: Lukachukai, AZ				
Surface Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below				
Tribal Trust I Private Bureau of La State	Tribal Fee Land			
Subsurface Mineral Rights:				
No information on subsurface mineral rights ownership was found in the EPA/AUM Database.				
Claim and op	perator information:			
the operator of	surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents showed the mine as Kerr McGee from 1962 to 1963, and Vanadium Corp. of America 1964. No other historical ownership / lease information was identified in the tabase.			
Number of re	esidential structures within 200 feet of mine:			
None				
Estimated volume of mine waste onsite:				
$1,042 \text{ yd}^3$				

# Part II Summary of radiological readings

## **Highest gamma radiation measurement:**

102,652 counts per minute (cpm)

#### Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 1,260 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 14,386 cpm to 102,652 cpm. Measurements in the vicinity of the waste debris were found at levels greater than 50,000 cpm. The highest levels were found above the adit. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

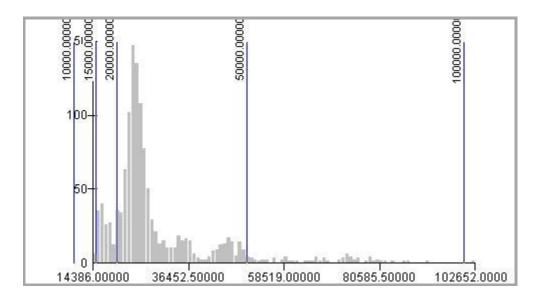
#### **Background Locations**

**Average background =** 19,496 cpm

#1 14,331 cpm #2 24,660 cpm

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

The following chart and statistics were generated by ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1, and show the general distribution of the site gamma radiation measurements. The horizontal X axis represents the gamma radiation reading levels in cpm (lowest levels to the left). The vertical Y axis represents the frequency of each gamma radiation level.



 Count:
 1260

 Minimum:
 14386,0000

 Maximum:
 102652,00000

 Sum:
 36291519,00000

 Mean:
 28802,79286

 Median:
 24704,00000

 Standard Deviation:
 12422,70499

#### Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes Waste Pile onsite: Yes

**NAMLRP Project Number:** NA-0327

**NAMLRP Mine features:** 2 Portals

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2009 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

#### Observed reclamation work and status:

#### **Adits**

2 adits, both inaccessible: one sealed; one open

## **Waste Piles**

Debris extending southwest approximately 50' down canyon, 75' x 75', with a total estimated volume of 1,042 yd<sup>3</sup>

# **Pits**

None

#### **Shafts**

None

# **Other Debris and Mine Features**

None

#### **Part IV**

#### **Site observations and Environs**

Observed Structures: list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:

**0 to 200 feet:** None

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:

0 to 200 feet: None

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

None

Observed water sources: list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:

0 to 0.25 miles: None

**0.25 miles to 4 miles:** None

Sensitive environments: note and describe all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species, habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation.

None observed

Known Site History: include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents. Note information on mine ownership, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information as provided.

Black No. 2 mine consists of an area of 18,904.21 m<sup>2</sup>. The mine was identified as being operational from 1955 to 1964. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as Kerr McGee from 1962 to 1963, and Vanadium Corp. of America from 1963 to 1964. While operational, the mine had a total reported production volume of 1,879 tons. No other historical information or any additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

# Part V Response Action Summary

**Site Name(s):** Black No.2 Mine **Chapter:** Round Rock

# **Decision Criteria**

Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site? Yes

At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located? None

At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources? None

Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site? Yes

Is the cap/seal functionally intact? Yes

Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases? No

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located? None

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source? None

## **Summary of emergency response factors**

None

# **Summary hazard ranking system factors**

None

## **Summary of reclamation factors**

2 inaccessible adits, one sealed, one open; unreclaimed waste pile

# Part VI Photos



Photo 1. Waste debris off cliff side



Photo 2. Inaccessible open adit



Photo 3. Mine site path



Photo 4. Steep grades downslope.



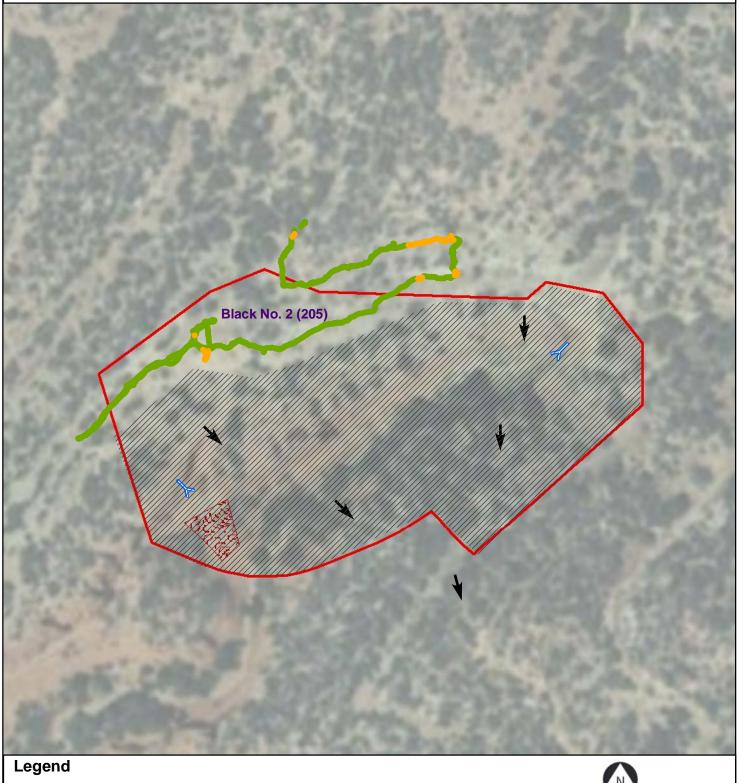
Photo 5. View from mine site.

March 2010

#### Part VII **Contacts Reports and Information**

Name:	<u>Stanley Edison</u> (928) 871-6861		
	Eugene Esplain (928) 871-7331		
Title or of	fficial role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program		
Address_	PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515		
Information provided <u>Lead Regulatory Agency</u>			
Name			
Title or official role (if any)			
Address			
Telephone number			
Information provided			
Name			
Title or official role (if any)			
Telephone number			
Information provided			
Name			
Title or of	_		
Telephone number			
	on provided		

Figure 1 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Black No. 2 (205)
Round Rock Chapter, Navajo Nation, Arizona



**Gamma Radiation Measurements** 

- < 2X Backgound</p>
- > 2X Background

Gamma survey conducted 10/2009 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background = 19,496 cpm



Observed Waste Pile

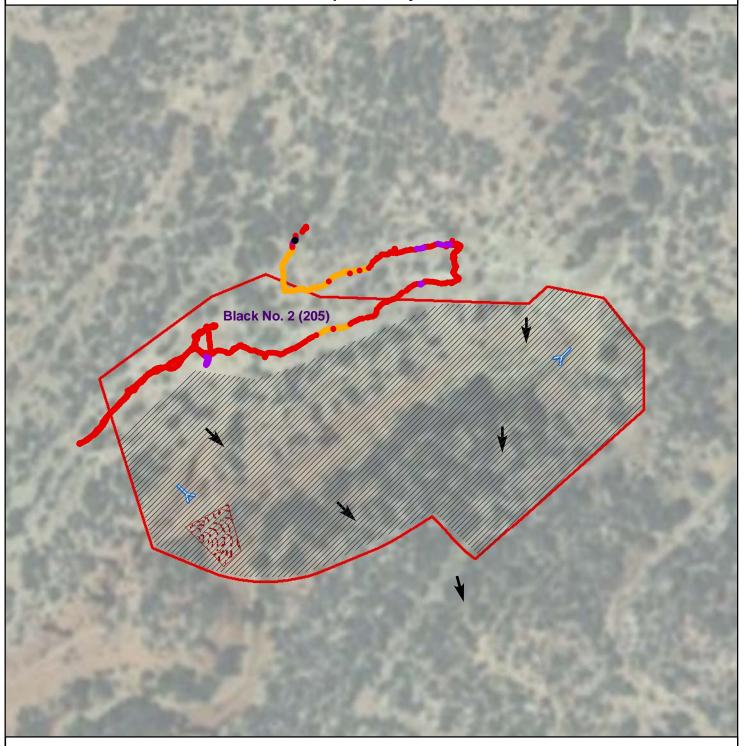
Inaccessible due to steep grades

➤ General Direction Down-Slope

Mine Claim Boundaries



Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Black No. 2 (205) Round Rock Chapter, Navajo Nation, Arizona



# Legend

#### **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- 0 10,000
- 10,000 15,000
- 15,000 20,000
- 20,000 50,000
- 50,000 100,000
- > 100,000



Inaccessible due to steep grades

General Direction Down-Slope

Mine Claim Boundaries

Gamma survey conducted 10/2009 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background = 19,496 cpm

